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Fine Lilies

and

Lilacs

from

STRAWBERRY HILL

RHINEBECK, N. Y.



This is a photograph of the stalk of L. TESTACEUM for which we were awarded the silver Sweepstakes Cup and the silver medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society at the 1951 show of the North American Lily Society, held under the auspices of the Horticultural Society of New York.

LILIES & LILACS at STRAWBERRY HILL

For nearly twenty years we have grown many kinds of flowers here before coming to a decision as to the varieties offering the greatest potential of beauty and pleasure to the gardener, but which are yet not as widely grown as they deserve to be. Ten years ago we concluded that lilies and lilacs, a genus and a species as familiar as almost any flowers that grow under the sun, have been treated like cinderellas or overly capricious children. Actually, by reason of the wider knowledge we now have of their culture, and the new hybrids that have been introduced, lilies and lilacs rank among the most garden-worthy ornamentals of the Northern Hemisphere.

On this centuries-old farm among the hills of Dutchess County in New York we have in the last decade assembled an attractive collection of lilies and lilacs from many parts of the world. We have increased this collection by modern methods of propagation. Our importations continue from abroad; and from hybridists in this country we continue to receive their finest new offerings.

This catalogue presents only a portion of the stock which in various stages of propagation is growing at Strawberry Hill and which we hope to list in future years. We would suggest that you retain this catalogue (with which is enclosed the current season's price list), since it provides descriptions and special planting directions. For the next year or two you will only receive the price list for the then current season. It will contain, of course, information concerning time-to-time additions to our stock, which are ready for distribution, and special offers. At varying periods we expect to issue new catalogues.

THE GARDEN LILY

It is one of the most desirable of perennials. It is hardy. It always creates a strong point of interest in any garden because of its attractive habits of growth; because of the shape, coloring and texture and perfume of the flower; because of the long blooming season, from May to frost, that can be secured by planting kinds that bloom successively; because as a cut flower it is unsurpassed, lasting a week or more in water even in the hottest weather.

Many lilies multiply readily by making offset bulbs each season. In time, say every four years or so, when the bulbs begin to crowd, they are lifted and reset in new soil. Thus you can repattern and increase the display of lilies in your garden.

But in all frankness it must be said that the lily does not respond gratefully to casual cultural treatment. There are lily species, varieties and hybrids that are quite content with almost any position and almost any kind of passable soil. And, interestingly enough these undemanding members of the genus are among the most beautiful of the whole group. But for the most part the lily asks that it be treated with some degree of gardening rationality, care and understanding of its

requirements. This does not mean that the gardener must lie awake nights thinking about the lilies he has planted.

It does mean that he should at planting time give them the soil and location they like. Individual requirements of the various lilies on our list are indicated in the following pages. You will be struck by the fact that special soil needs almost wholly fall into one class—sharp sand, leaf mold and top forest soil. But you will then also note that so many varieties do very well in ordinary good garden loam.

Plant lily bulbs about 1 ft. apart. Planting depths indicated under the various listings is the measurement from the base of the bulb to the top of the bed. Since bulb sizes of a given variety vary, a good working rule is to plant them about three times their height from base to tip, that is, a bulb 2 in. high, for instance, should be covered with 4 in. of soil. But no matter what the size of the bulb, we do not recommend that its tip should be more than 6 or 7 in. underground.

A paramount consideration in choosing a spot for lilies is the provision of good quick drainage. This can be assured where it does not already exist by putting on the bottom of the bed several inches of gravel, then the soil mixture in which your lilies are to grow. The lily plant likes to have its head in the sun, but its root run kept cool. This latter condition is easily provided for by a mulch of peat moss, sawdust or wood chips, pine needles or the like, which also help retard an over-early start of top growth, thus guarding against injury from late frosts.

For gardeners who wish to learn more about lilies, we offer Edgar L. Kline's "Reference Chart of Lilies for Garden and Greenhouse" for \$1.00 and Dr. George L. Slate's "Lilies for American Gardens" for \$5.00, each postpaid. Messrs. Kline and Slate are two of America's most distinguished lily hybridists and specialists. The "Reference Chart" lists the greater number of lilies under cultivation, their height, color, time of blooming, depths at which to plant, etc.,—a panorama of lily culture. Dr. Slate's book is considered the best volume on the subject by an American author.

We also suggest membership in the North American Lily Society. The Society's Year Book and regular newsletters provide a wealth of interesting and useful information about lilies. Its seed exchange makes available to members at a nominal cost a wide variety of lily seeds. Advice from specialists who are leading figures in the Society is always at the disposal of members. We will be glad to send you a membership application blank.

FINE LILIES FOR YOUR GARDEN

- L. **AMY SYME** A charming little lily of Australian origin and dwarf habits, growing to about 18", with a pretty apricot colored flower. Give it a loose soil, rich in humus, and plant 2" deep. Blooms in June-July.
- L. **AURATUM (type)** The gold-banded Lily of Japan. One of the most exotic and fragrant of flowers. Chalice-shaped, white, with a rib of gold and purple spots. Blooms July-Aug. on 4-6' stems. Requires a mixture of coarse sand, leaf mold and top-layer soil from the woods. Plant 4-6" deep.
- L. **AURATUM ESPERANZA** An improved strain originated in Canada and grown from seed by the famous Esperanza Lily Gardens of Langley Prairie, B.C., the flowers larger, more varied in shape and more strikingly colored.

L. AURATUM ESPERANZA NAMED VARIETIES The Esperanza Lily Gardens have in recent years—they have since discontinued the practice—selected and named a few of their seedlings because of their unusually attractive characteristics and coloring. From clones which they have supplied us we have propagated a number of these named varieties.

GOLD The color of the gold rib is diffused over the entire flower.

GREEN TREASURE The base color of the flower is glass green to sea foam.

PASTEL Soft flowing colors.

RED Predominant red coloring.

SPECTACULAR Heavily marked or maculated flowers.

L. AURATUM PAULINE TUFFERY Propagated by the celebrated New Zealand hybridist and grower, Mr. L. Tuffery, this especially notable named variety of the species, impressive because of its great pyramid of crimson flowers, is currently under observation by the Royal Horticultural Society of England and may well receive its Award of Merit. Our stock is a propagation from a clone obtained from Mr. Tuffery.

L. AURATUM PLATYPHYLLUM A larger flowering variety than the type and hardier.

L. AURATUM VIRGINALE White in color and gold spotted.

L. AURELIANENSE CARL YEREX' INTRODUCTIONS The distinguished Oregon specialist has originated these first class hybrids. They are noted for their yellow coloring. They are called Aurelian, after the Roman name of Orleans, France, native city of M. Debras, the French hybridist, who developed a cross of this nature, namely the white trumpet L. SARGENTIAE (which see) with L. HENRYI (which see) in 1928. These are our own vegetative propagations from bulbs obtained from Mr. Yerex. Plant them in good garden soil of open texture, 6-7" deep.

L. AURELIAN CORONA HYBRIDS Recurring flowers in pastel shades, stems up to 8', July-Aug.

L. AURELIAN GOLDEN TRUMPETS A long yellow trumpet on 5-6' stems, July-Aug.

L. AURELIAN SUPERBA HYBRIDS Broadly open flowers, similar to L. AURATUM, in shades from white, to cream, buff and yellow, July-Aug.

L. BELLINGHAM HYBRIDS (See also L. SHUKSAN) A vigorous group of lilies attaining a height of 4-5', blooming in June-July, obtained by crossing the western American native L. HUMBOLDTHI with two of its near neighbors, L. PARDALINUM and L. PARRYI. The flowers range from yellow to red or a combination of both, spotted with dark brown or black and are turk's cap in form. Plant 5-6" deep.

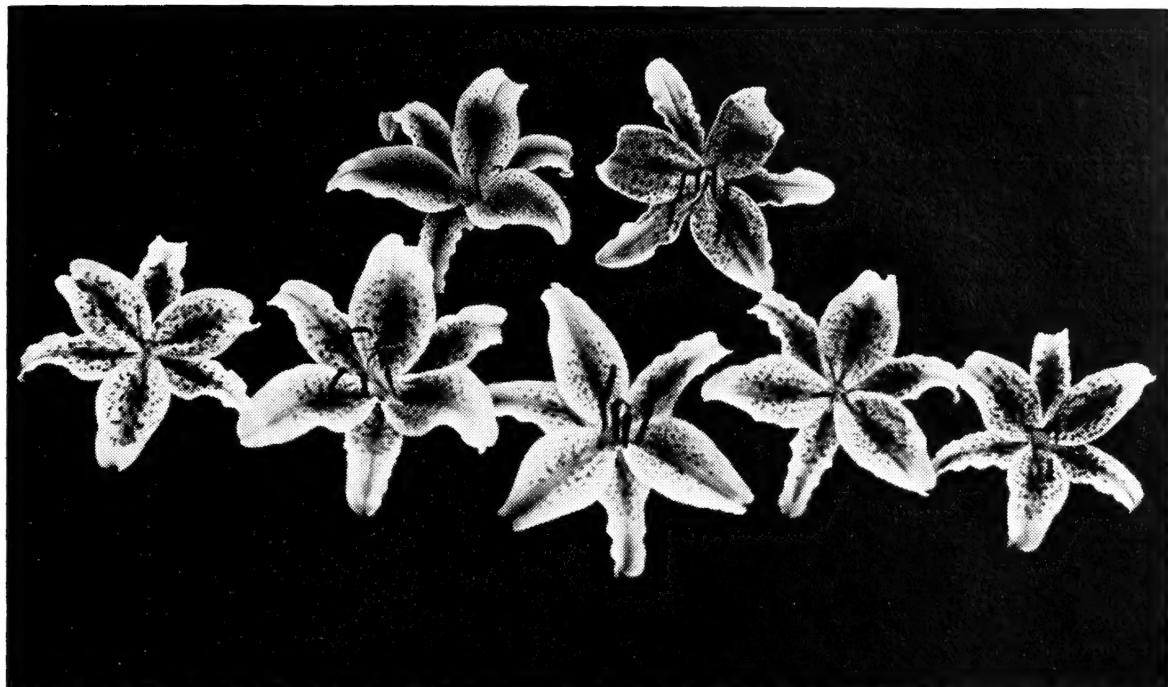
L. BROWNII A rare and appealing white trumpet lily from Asia, blooming in July. Height 3-3½'. Give it a humus laden soil and plant 6-7" deep.

L. BULBIFERUM HYBRIDS Crosses of the well-known European, red, cup shaped lily, with many variations in color from red, developed by Mr. Tuffery of New Zealand. Will grow from 15" to 5', blooms in June-July. Wants good garden soil. Plant 4-5" deep.

- L. **CALLOSUM** An extremely dainty, brick red little turk's cap from China, growing on slender 30" stems. It is of easy culture, requiring only a good sandy soil. Blooms late in July. It likes full sun. Plant 3" deep.
- L. **CANADENSE FLAVUM** Our picturesque native eastern meadow lily; grows to 3'; will carry up to 12 flowers with reflexed, bright yellow, darkly spotted petals. Grow it on an inch of sand, underlaid with a mixture of leaf mold and sand. Flowers early July. Plant 3-4" deep.
- L. **CANDIDUM** This is the classic Madonna Lily, growing to a height of 4', pure white semi-trumpets with golden anthers, blooming in June. It wants a rich garden soil. Plant in September and cover the tips of the bulb with only 2" of soil. It makes a basal rosette of leaves which stay green all winter.
- L. **CANDIDUM CASCADE STRAIN** A more floriferous plant and very striking.
- L. **CENTIFOLIUM HYBRIDS** Perhaps a little more elegant, but really very much like L. REGALE (which see). But because they flower later, they give the gardener a longer blooming period for his white trumpet lilies of June-July.
- L. **CENTIFOLIUM OLYMPIC HYBRIDS** A more floriferous and handsomer plant.
- L. **CHALCEDONICUM CAMILLE** One of Mr. Tuffery's fine hybrids of the beautiful L. CHALCEDONICUM of Greece, crossed with L. TESTACEUM (which see) and recrossed with L. CHALCEDONICUM. The flower varies from the type only in being apricot instead of red. Height 3-4', blooms in July; shade it slightly. Plant 4" deep in good garden soil.
- L. **CONCOLOR** A bright red, star-like little lily from China, growing 2-2½' high. It flowers in June-July and likes a coarse sandy soil full of humus. Plant 3-4" deep.
- L. **DALHANSONI** A vigorous hybrid with blood of L. HANSONII (which see), save that the coloring is reddish maroon and orange. It flowers June-July on 4-6' stems. Plant 4-5" deep in full sun in gritty garden loam.
- L. **DAURICUM** An apricot colored cup-shaped lily from Asia that is an early bloomer, in May, making it particularly desirable for that reason. It wants sand and humus. Height 30". Plant 4-5" deep.
- L. **DAURICUM WILSONII** A more varied type and a considerably more showy plant, blooming in Aug. Same cultural directions.
- L. **DAVIDI WILLMOTTIAE** A fine orange-red turk's cap, growing to a height of 3-4', blooming June-July. It does well in moderately fertile garden soil. It increases rapidly by making offset bulbs. We recommend it highly for every garden, particularly because it demands so little attention. Plant 4-5" deep.
- DR. SKINNER'S HYBRIDS** For a generation the great Canadian hybridist, Dr. F. L. Skinner, has been devoting himself in Manitoba to the improvement of lily types with particular emphasis on better habits of growth and hardiness.

- L. AMARYLLIS** One of the most recent and attractive of his crosses. He says that its "pale red flowers remind one of the flowers of the amaryllis." Height 30". Flowers in July. Good garden soil. Plant 4-6" deep.
- L. DAVIDI MAXWILL** An improved L. DAVIDI WILLMOTTIAE, the color being a slightly deeper red and the stems more erect.
- L. DROPMORE ORIOLE** An apricot-orangey variant of the L. DAVIDI group.
- L. GLOW** A cross between L. DAURICUM & L. PHILADELPHICUM (which see.) It grows to 2' and has reddish orange flowers. Treat like L. DAURICUM.
- L. MARGARET JOHNSON** A hybrid variety of L. TIGRINUM (which see) and a handsome plant, flowering in late July. Plant 5-6" deep.
- L. SCOTTIAE** A hybrid of L. DAVIDI WILLMOTTIAE, this is a brilliant orange, open, outwarding facing lily that responds handsomely to moderate care. Flowers June on 18-30" stems.
- L. GRAYI** A native wildling from the American middle Atlantic states that blooms in July. It has a trumpet or funnel-like flower, crimson on the outside and orange on the inside, on stems 30"-4' high. Treat like L. CANADENSE, to which it is closely related.
- L. GREEN MT. HYBRIDS** Another of the desirable white trumpets of July, with attractive green coloring on the reverse of the petals, yellow tints on inside. Height 5'. Plant 5-6" deep. Add plenty of leaf mold to soil.
- L. HANSONII** An extremely useful turk's cap yellow lily from Japan, blooming June-July. It is thrifty, grows to a height of 30", asking only a little shade to keep the blossoms from bleaching. Good garden soil. Plant 5-6" deep.
- L. HENRYI** Well established, this vigorous lily will grow to 8' and should be staked. It has dark, pleasing foliage and a turk's cap flower of orange-yellow. It makes little demand as concerns soil, and is a gardener's standby. It blooms in July-Aug. If you shade it a little, its brilliant flowers will not fade. Plant 5-6" deep.
- ISABELLA PRESTON HYBRIDS** These outstanding lilies developed by Miss Isabella Preston at the Ottawa Experimental Station are ideally suited for everyman's garden. Their stems are tall and erect, growing to 5', the foliage glistening dark green, and they bear large pyramids of turk's cap lilies. Bloom June-July. Plant 6" deep.
- L. BRENTA WATTS** Light cherry color.
- L. CORONATION** Buttery yellow.
- L. LILIAN CUMMING** Deep cherry red.
- L. JAPONICUM** This fuchsia pink trumpet lily from Japan, fragrant and beautiful, grows on stems up to 3' and should be given a gravelly sand mixed with leaf mold and top-layer wood soil, in a slightly shaded spot, near running water to which its roots can extend. Don't be afraid to give it competition from low growing rooty perennials. Blooms in late June. Plant 5-6" deep.

- L. **LANKONGENSE** A rose, purple-spotted, dainty, fragrant lily with reflexed petals from western China, still rare in this country. It wants a porous loamy soil, charged with leaf mold and gritty sand, with some moisture and slight shade. Flowers July-Aug. Height 2-4'.
- L. **LONGIFLORUM ESTATE** One of the better varieties of the Easter Lily which in the garden blooms in July-Aug. Grows to 4'. Its chaste white trumpet is too well known to require description. Plant 5-6" deep.
- L. **MARHAN** A strong growing hybrid with blood of L. HANSONII, with darker, orange colored flowers. Will grow to 7', blooming in June-July. Plant 6-7" deep in gritty garden soil.
- L. **MAXIMOWICZII WADAI** We are enthusiastic about this unassuming turk's cap which looks very much like L. TIGRINUM, orangey red and purple spotted, but has none of the latter's faults. It grows in any soil, will reach a height of 8', and multiplies rapidly. If used as a background to a late July garden, it makes a first class display. Plant 4-5" deep.
- L. **MRS. R. O. BACKHOUSE** An English hybrid and one of the glories of the modern garden. It flowers freely, is of strong constitution, growing to a height of 5-6', bearing in June-July up to 30 reflexed blooms of orange, slightly spotted with purple. It likes a gritty-sandy, humus-laden soil. Plant 6-7" deep.
- L. **NEPALENSE** The rare lily of Nepal. Funnel shaped flowers of greenish yellow color, heavily stained purple brown in the throat, producing a striking effect. Give it a predominantly leaf mold soil. It may be tender north of Philadelphia. But try planting it in pots, to be stored in the winter in a root cellar or under the bench in a cool greenhouse. Height 3'; plant 6-7" deep.
- L. **PARDALINUM GIGANTEUM** The California native, the Sunset Lily, with a 4' stem and flowers having reflexed petals, the outer half crimson, the remainder yellow and heavily spotted. It likes a mixture of gravelly sand, woods soil and compost, kept reasonably moist in dry weather. It flowers early in July. Plant 5-6" deep.
- L. **PARKMANNI JILLIAN WALLACE** This is one of the outstanding hybrids of our generation. It is a cross between a variety of L. SPECIOSUM (which see) and a variety of L. AURATUM. The flower is blood red with green in its throat, is bowl-shaped and large, up to 10" in diameter. It was raised by Mr. Roy M. Wallace of Australia and has received the Award of Merit of the Royal Horticultural Society of England. We have imported bulbs from Mr. Wallace and propagated them. They are offered by few growers in America. For the gardener who wants to work with something rare and beautiful we suggest trying this exceptional lily which is essentially not a difficult one. The bulb should be planted 4-5" deep, surrounded by one inch of course sand, underlaid by a mixture of the same sort of sand, leaf mold and top layer forest soil. Provide the sharpest possible drainage, but see that the plant doesn't lack water in the growing season. Mulch it and give it full sun. It flowers in Aug., and when established attains a height of 5'.
- L. **PHILADELPHICUM** The native wood lily of the northeast section of the United States, with an upright orangey-red cup, flowering early in July on 1-2' stems. A charming lily, but frankly a difficult garden subject. It flourishes for us in a bed which it shares with wild grasses and local wild flowers. In planting it, surround it with an inch of sand underlaid by an equal mixture of sand and leaf mold, and give it a ground cover as described above. Plant 3" deep.



L. PARKMANNI JILLIAN WALLACE, one of the great recent hybrids.

- L. PRINCEPS** A good white trumpet lily obtained by crossing *L. REGALE* x *L. SARGENTIAE* (which see.) It is of easy culture and great vigor, blooming in July-Aug. on 6' stems. Plant 6-7" deep.
- L. PRINCEPS G. C. CREELMAN** A selected seedling of the above, superb and still quite rare.
- L. REGALE** The old garden standby. Its fragrant white trumpets, variously tinted on the outside from pink through brownish-green, good height, 7', and vigorous habits of growth in almost any soil recommend themselves strongly. It blooms June-July. Plant 6-8" deep.
- L. SARGENTIAE** This superb and appealing lily is a white trumpet, bronze-green on the outside, with a lemon-yellow throat, the flowers attaining a length of 9". It blooms late in July on 4-5' stems. The plant bears bulbils in the axis of the leaves. These bulbils can be planted, to increase your stock of this valuable lily. Give it a coarse sandy soil rich in humus. Plant 6" deep.
- L. SHUKSAN** A yellow variety of the BELLINGHAM HYBRIDS, spotted with deep purple. An unusually graceful lily.
- L. SPECIOSUM** The Japanese "showy lily," with a large pink to red flower, reflexed petals, midrib green, growing to a height of 3-4' and flowering in Aug. In a gravelly, humus-laden soil, plant 6" deep.
- L. SPECIOSUM ESPERANZA SEEDLINGS** Rich in coloring, this variety is grown from selected seeds by the famous Esperanza Lily Gardens of British Columbia, from whom we obtained our stock.
- L. SPECIOSUM MAGNIFICUM** Blended reds. Will grow to 6'. A large and impressive member of the species.
- L. SPECIOSUM ROSEUM** This is perhaps the showiest of the species, stocky and substantial, growing to 3' and having a rosy coloring. It is not much seen in America. Our stock is an import

from R. W. Wallace of England. It does well in a mixture of gravelly sand, leaf mold and compost, blooming late in Aug.

L. SPECIOSUM RUBRUM Pink flowers. An easy subject. Height 4'.

- L. SULPHUREUM** A surpassing, late July, fragrant trumpet with a deep yellow throat and ice-yellow-white petals that curl back to give the flower a rare form. We raise our stock from selected seeds and we recommend this lily. It grows to 5' and likes a gritty, sandy soil with high humus content. Plant 5-7" deep.
- L. SUPERBUM** Another of our handsome Atlantic seaboard native lilies which grows to a height of 12' if given the gravelly-sandy, humus packed soil it likes, bearing crowns of 20 turk's cap, orangey-yellow-red flowers in July. Plant 4-5" deep.
- L. SZOVITSIANUM** A lily from the Caucasus, attaining a height of 30"-5', having yellow, cup shaped flowers, blooming in June. It likes a position in front of trees and isn't particular as to soil type, although it prefers loam. Plant 5-6" deep.
- L. T. A. HAVEMEYER** A lily for the fancier, with an orangey-buff, very fragrant, trumpet flower, almost 7" across. Stems grow to 5' and will carry a head of as many as 18 blooms. It prefers garden loam to which leaf mold has been added. It flowers Aug.-Sept. Plant 6-7" deep.
- L. TESTACEUM** The famous Nankeen Lily, of apricot-tinted white with delicate apricot dots. It is still considered the finest of the man-made hybrids more than a century after its introduction. Our display of L. TESTACEUM at the 1951 show of the North American Lily Society was awarded the silver Sweepstakes Cup and the silver medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. This is a truly great and magnificent lily that even the most casual gardener can handle with ease. We are anxious to have it widely disseminated. An illustration of the prize-winning spike appears on page 2. This lily requires only good garden loam, and flowers in June-July on 5' stems. Plant 4-5" deep.
- L. TIGRINUM FORTUNEI** Our old friend, the tiger lily. FORTUNEI is possibly the best of the type. Salmon colored, flowers Aug., 4' stems; not demanding as to soil. Plant 5-6" deep.
- L. TSINGTAUENSE** A bright Chinese lily, growing to 3', bearing starlike, upward and outward facing orange-red flowers in July. Give it a gravelly loam, full of leaf mold, in slight shade, providing with water in dry weather. Plant 4-5" deep.
- L. UMBELLATUM** Here is one of the most useful of garden lilies. Reaching a height of 30" and blooming in June, it has an upward facing, cup-shaped flower. Messrs. Woodcock & Stearn in their authoritative "Lilies of the World" say of L. UMBELLATUM: "Considering how brilliant and easy they are, it is surprising they are not more often planted. In 1931, the Royal Horticultural Society (of England) conferred the Award of Garden Merit on the group, a well-merited distinction for plants so decorative, vigorous, hardy, long-lived and rapid of increase. They can be used at the front of mixed or shrub borders or even in beds." . . . Fifty or a hundred of these bulbs planted as a mass to show off low growing flowers of other genera will produce an unforgettable sight. We offer the following varieties of L. UMBELLATUM which should be planted 5-6" deep in good soil:

- L. **UMBELLATUM x DAVIDI HYBRIDS** A Tuffery cross, red & orange.
 - L. **UMBELLATUM ERECTUM** Bright, glossy red, suffused with orange. We believe this to be the best of the type.
 - L. **UMBELLATUM ORANGE TRIUMPH** A larger flower and orange colored.
 - L. **UMBELLATUM VARIEGATED** Mixed colors, yellow, through orange, through red, flowers of varying size.
- U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE INTRODUCTIONS** (available 1953)
In the autumn of 1951, the Agricultural Research Administration of the Department made available to commercial growers for dissemination a group of extremely valuable and beautiful new lilies which should be ready to go into the country's gardens, at all events in small quantities, in the autumn of 1953. As one of the nurseries selected for the distribution of these unusually desirable and impressive flowers, STRAWBERRY HILL is privileged to offer the following:
- L. BELTSVILLE HYBRIDS** These are seedlings obtained by a series of crosses between L. AURATUM AND L. SPECIOSUM. The flowers of these seedlings, each varying a little one from the other, are very much like L. SPECIOSUM in form, but are very much larger. They are pink in color and have been described by specialists as among the most beautiful of all lilies.
 - L. MAXIMOWICZII GROUP** (See L. MAXIMOWICZII WADAI)
Aside from the general vigor, desirability of growth habit and attractiveness of the flowers, this group of new hybrids offers a long season of bloom, from July to frost, virtually making it indispensable for one who is fond of lilies.
 - ALPHA** An early flowering seedling, growing to about 4', soon making a good sized clump of stems and bulbs.
 - BETA** Reaches 6-7' and produces more flowers per stem.
 - GAMMA** Flowers two weeks later than BETA. The bloom is a darker red-orange, and the growth is intermediate between the two above.
 - DELTA** Flowers somewhat later than the others.
 - L. MYRIOPHYLLUM x L. HAVEMEYER GROUP** Hybrid trumpets with stronger yellow coloring than the first name parent (see L. SULPHUREUM). They give a succession of bloom in the following order:
 - SHASTA**
 - BAKER**
 - ADAMS**
 - L. WARDII** Very fragrant and pink, with tightly reflexed petals, this delightful Asiatic member of the genus flowers in July-Aug. on 5' stems, and wants a light garden loam laden with humus. Plant 3" deep.



A truss of the superb French hybrid lilac, CAPITAINE BALLET

LILACS IN YOUR GARDEN

The old-fashioned lilac bush growing near the farmhouse is almost a symbol of the American countryside. But over the years, the newer lilacs, with their ever-widening range of coloring and form, their massive pannicles of flowers and varying foliage, have all but transformed the species. New introductions, moreover, have lengthened the blooming period, so that now you may have very early, middle season, and late varieties—from late April well into June.

Yet the lilac still remains a shrub of comparatively easy culture and fits well into any kind of planting scheme, from the modest back-door garden to the carefully planned lilac walk. With moderate care a bush will last for generations, increasing in beauty every season and always accenting the return of spring.

We recommend that you plant our lilac bushes immediately on arrival, in a well-prepared, well-limed, well-drained, fertile soil, at least six feet apart, in full sun. Lilacs will not thrive in heavy shade or under large trees. Set the roots well spread out in a hole amply large enough to accommodate them. The bushes should be planted an inch or so deeper than they were in the nursery. The mark left by the earth on the stems will tell you at what depth they originally grew. If you cannot plant them as soon as they arrive, "heel" the roots temporarily in earth which is kept moist.

Water the plants thoroughly at planting and continue to supply water at weekly intervals until frost, unless there is ample rain. Mulch them with strawy material immediately after planting and keep the mulch on continuously thereafter. Do not forget their need of water in hot dry summer weather, particularly when they are small or have been recently transplanted.

Each year, immediately after blooming, remove the dead blossoms from your lilac bushes, since otherwise seed pods will set, putting an unnecessary drain on the plant. Lilacs bloom on the previous year's wood, therefore, unless it is a dead branch that you wish to remove, do not prune at any time other than immediately after flowering.

The pruning of a lilac is a comparatively simple undertaking.

Different varieties differ in height, but a lilac bush that is allowed to grow higher than 9 feet is likely to become scraggly and unmanageable, with the flower thyrses tending to appear only on top, far out of reach for cutting and ever fewer in number, since it means that the plant is being encouraged to make wood at the expense of bloom. Therefore top your bushes at intervals of a year or two, where you see they are reaching for height, and you will find that they assume a naturally graceful shape.

In pruning, cut out weak, injured or dead wood at the point of juncture. Treat similarly branches that rub each other, removing one of them, and work always to prevent the formation of a bush so thick that of necessity much of the wood will be of only second quality. Get sunlight and air into the centre of your shrub. When you cut a twig or branch at a point other than that of juncture, as when you are topping a branch, prune just above an outward facing bud. Paint cuts larger than one-half inch in diameter with tree paint, to prevent entry of wood-destroying fungi.

As our bushes are all on their own roots, suckers that appear will bear flowers true to the variety. Since over many years the wood in a bush tends to grow old and lose its power to produce prime bloom, or even dies, it may be necessary to take out main stems at the ground. Hence it is good practice to encourage a few suckers which in time will replace major parts of the plant that have been removed. However, too many suckers sap the strength of a bush, and all but three or four should be removed just below ground level each year.

A word about own-rooted lilacs. We firmly believe that they are most satisfactory, although the subject is admittedly a controversial one. We believe the only reason grafted stock is more generally offered lies in the fact that a large plant can be produced in a comparatively short time by this method. An own-rooted lilac propagated from a cutting may only be nine inches in height after the first season's growth. It's a time-consuming, tedious and costly business to grow lilacs that way. But it produces bushes with thick skeins of fibrous roots—bushes that soon overtake in size any grafted stock. As for the future prospects of health and thriftiness, of long survival and increasing floriferousness of own-rooted lilacs, we think there can be no question.

FINE LILACS FOR YOUR GARDEN

ADELAIDE DUNBAR Semi-double. Violet-rose, an unusual color.

ALPHONSE LAVALLEE Double. Gem-like flowers of deep lavender to purple.

BLEUATRE Single. Blue. Makes a tall, fine bush.

CAPITAINE BALLET Single. Deep purple. Florets are large and have golden anthers.

CHARLES JOLY Double. Burgundy to purple. A thrifty subject.

CONDORCET Double. Opalescent. A well-formed and strong shrub.

CONGO Single. Rose purple.

DECAISNE Single. Violet that deepens as blossoms mature. Thrifty and prolific.

EDMOND BOSSIER Single. Darkest red. A small compact bush.

GEORGES BELLAIR Double. Wine red. Described by Mrs. Edward Harding in her "Lilacs in My Garden" as a "rare and distinguished lilac."

HIPPOLYTE MARINGER Double. Color is variegated purple.

HUGO KOSTER Single. Purple to mauve.

JAN VAN TOL Single. White. Extremely large florets. Abundant in bloom, vigorous in growth.

JEANNE D'ARC Double. From a yellow bud, the flower opens into a creamy white.

JULES FERRY Double. Argent blue that takes on a pinkish tint as flower matures.

KATHARINE HAVEMEYER Double. Opalescent coloring.

LEON GAMBETTA Double. Rosy lavender. The racemes of flowers are impressively large.

LUCIE BALLET Single. Dutch brick red that softens to pale coral after a day or two.

LUDWIG SPAETH Single. Burgundy. Prolific.

MME. ANTOINE BUCHNER Double. Rosy colored.

MME. CASIMIR PERIER Double. Pale creamy white. Fairly low in growth habit, and the bush is stocky and sturdy.

MME. FRANCISQUE MOREL Single. Lavender pink. The florets are among the largest in the lilac family.

MME. LEMOINE Double. White. Erect, tall bush.

MARECHAL LANNES Semi-double. Extremely large florets of bluish color.

MRS. EDWARD HARDING Double. This lilac was named by the distinguished French hybridist, Emile Lemoine, after the celebrated American peony and lilac expert, Mrs. Edward Harding (Alice Harding.) She described it as "claret-colored mixed with pink."

MRS. W. E. MARSHALL Single. Red plum colored florets. A well-formed bush.

MONGE Single. Royal purple. It blooms prolifically and makes a very showy plant.

MONT BLANC Single. Large white florets. A tall bush.

OLIVIER DE SERRES Double. Lavender blue. Large thyrses of flowers.

PAUL THIRION Double. Wine rose colored.

PRESIDENT GREVY Double. Bluish. One of the early blooming French hybrids. A rapid grower.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN Single. Cerulean blue. A fine hybrid of American origin.

PRESIDENT POINCARE Double. Tri-colored, from red to purple, florets.

REAUMUR Single. Red. A plant of excellent character.

RENE JARRY-DESLOGES Double. Faint violet. Another of the early bloomers among the French hybrids.

SYRINGA CHINENSIS Single. Rose-pink that ages to blue. The panicles of flowers, often 18 inches long, are spire shaped. It is considered one of the oldest of natural hybrids. An unusual and beautiful lilac.

SYRINGA JAPONICA Single. White. One of the few tree lilacs. Will grow to a height of 20 ft. or more. Has an attractive bark and foliage.

SYRINGA PERSICA Single. The so-called Persian lilac. Pale pink.

VESTALE Single. White. A very graceful bush.

VICTOR LEMOINE Double. Sky-at-sunset color.

EARLY VARIETIES—The New Dilitata Hybrids

ASESSIPPI Single. Rich purple. Florets have flat broad petals.

EVANGELINE Double. Lavender.

MINNEHAHA Single. Purple.

NOKOMIS Single. Light lavender.

POCAHONTAS Single. Large open flowers of deep purple.

LATE VARIETIES

CORAL Single. Lavender pink, to coral.

FLOREAL Single. Faint lavender.

ISABELLA Single. Pink.

LUTECE Single. Violet colored.

SYRINGA VILLOSA Single. Bright rose to pink. An extremely strong member of the species, of good form and handsome foliage.

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